REMARKS

The Applicant appreciates the thorough review of the application by the Examiner. The amendments satisfy the Examiner's requirements. No new matter has been added by the amendments. No new issues are raised by the amendments. The amendments address concerns raised by the Examiner in the Office Action. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 49 - 53.

Claim 16 has been amended to properly depend on claim 2, not claim 17. Claim 18 has been amended to properly depend on claim 17.

The 35 U.S.C. 112 rejections have been addressed. Claim 7 now depends on claim 2. Claim 10 now refers to the filter in the singular.

The rejections based on 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. 103(a) should be withdrawn. Claim 1 has been cancelled. Claim 2 includes the limitation that the filter is an electrostatic filter.

Applicant has presented a novel, unique and non-obvious invention.

CONCLUSION

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully,

James C. Wray, Reg. No. 22,693

Meera P. Narasimhan, Reg. No. 40,252 Matthew J. Laskoski, Reg. No. 55,360

1493 Chain Bridge Road, Suite 300

McLean, Virginia 22101 Tel: (703) 442-4800

Fax: (703) 448-7397

Date: January 28, 2005